

Appl. No. 09/890,920
Atty. Docket No. 7942
Amdt. dated 10/14/2004
Reply to Office Action of 07/14/2004
Customer No. 27752

REMARKS

Claim Status

Claims 11 – 13, and 15 - 26 are pending in the present application. No additional claims fee is believed to be due.

Claims 11 and 15 have been amended to exclude the limitation that the composition comprise less than 5% by weight of antioxidant. Additionally, claims 11 and 15 have been amended to more particularly define the invention. Support for the amendments is found at page 13, lines 11 - 18 of the specification. Claim 26 has also been amended to correct its dependence.

It is believed these changes do not involve any introduction of new matter. Consequently, entry of these changes is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 USC §112

Claims 11 and 15 are rejected under 35 USC §112, first and second paragraphs, for failing to respectively: comply with the written description requirement; and for failing to set forth the subject matter which Applicants regard as their invention. Applicants have removed the limitations that are cited as the bases for the §112 rejections merely to enable swift allowance of the case. Applicants therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the §112 rejections in light of the current amendments.

Rejections Under 35 USC §§ 102(b) and 103(a)

Claims 11 – 13 and 15 - 26 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under §103(a) as obvious over Boskamp (US 4,462,922). Additionally, claims 11 – 13 and 15 – 26 have been rejected under §103(a) as obvious over Vinson (US 6,069,122). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the following reasons.

Applicants have amended the claims of the instant invention to more particularly define it. Specifically, the claims have been amended to require *inter alia* that the liquid dishwashing detergent of the present invention not only comprise anionic surfactant, amphoteric surfactant and diamine, but that it contains these ingredients in specific ratios. These ratios are essential to provide a liquid dishwashing detergent with improved low temperature stability, better grease removal, tough food cleaning benefits as well as improved hard water cleaning. See page 13, lines 11 – 18 of the Specification. Neither Boskamp nor Vinson teaches or suggests such ratios in their detergent compositions. Hence, the §103(a) and §102(b) rejections are overcome.

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Conclusion

In light of the above remarks, it is requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the aforementioned rejections. Early and favorable action in the case is respectfully requested.

This response represents an earnest effort to place the application in proper form and to distinguish the invention as now claimed from the applied references. In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of this application, entry of the amendments presented herein, and allowance of Claims 11 – 13 and 15 - 26 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY

By _____

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